

CLAIMS

1. Pressurised metered dose inhalers containing a solution of an active ingredient in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant, a co-solvent and optionally a low-volatility component characterised in that part or all of the internal surfaces of said inhalers consist of stainless steel, anodised aluminium or are lined with an inert organic coating selected from perfluoroalkoxyalkane, epoxy-phenol resin or fluorinated-ethylene-propylene polyether sulfone, said material preventing the chemical degradation of the active ingredient.

2. Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to claim 1, wherein the active ingredients are selected from  $\beta_2$  agonists, steroids or anti-cholinergic agents and their combinations.

3. Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to claim 2, wherein the active ingredient is ipratropium bromide, oxitropium bromide, tiotropium bromide, flunisolide, triamcinolone acetonide, fluticasone propionate, mometasone furoate, budesonide, ciclesonide, rofleponide and epimers thereof.

25 *Sub A17* 4. Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 1 to 3, containing a low-volatility component selected from glycerol,

polyethylene glycol and isopropyl myristate.

5. Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 1 to 4, wherein the co-solvent is ethanol.

5 6. Pressurized metered dose inhalers according to any of claims from 1 to 5, wherein the propellant is selected from HFA 227, HFA 134a and their mixtures.

10 7. Pressurised metered dose inhalers according to any of claims 1 to 6 wherein part or all of the internal surfaces are coated with an epoxy phenol resin.

15 8. Pressurised metered dose inhalers according to any of claims 1 to 5 wherein part or all of the internal surfaces consist of anodised aluminium.

20 9. Stabilized aerosol solution formulation consisting of an active ingredient in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant, a co-solvent and optionally a low-volatility component for use in a pressurised metered dose inhaler as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8.

25 10. Aerosol solution formulation of dexamethasone in a hydrofluorocarbon propellant and ethanol as a co-solvent, further comprising a low volatility compound selected from glycerol, isopropylmyristate and polyethylene glycol.

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